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# THE CONDOR

A Magazine of  
Western Ornithology

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## EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

It may prove stimulative to western bird students to know something of the ornithological work in progress among their fellows. The following data gathered by the Editor are not likely to be anywhere near complete, and further information is desirable, particularly from persons not here mentioned. Mr. Edward R. Warren, of Colorado Springs, has in preparation an extended paper on the life history of the White-tailed Ptarmigan in Colorado. Mr. George Willett is working toward the compilation of a popular handbook on the birds of southern California, an extension in scope of Avifauna No. 7. Dr. T. S. Palmer, of the Biological Survey, Washington, has for some time interested himself in the biographies of American ornithologists. In his researches in the annals of western ornithology he has come across some interesting information in regard to the routes of such early field workers in California as Gambel, Heermann and Kennerly. All this information it is planned to present in a series of articles. Dr. Palmer is also making a nomenclatural study of the various names applied to the Red-

breasted Sapsucker. Dr. W. H. Bergtold, of Denver, is making an elaborate investigation of the period of incubation in birds. Mr. Aretas A. Saunders is preparing a state list of the birds of Montana which will probably be published as one of the Cooper Club Avifauna series. Mr. George Finlay Simmons, of Houston, Texas, is engaged in working up the birds of the Austin region for publication by the University of Texas. Dr. Harry C. Oberholser, of the Biological Survey, Washington, has practically finished a comprehensive report on the birds of Texas, the early publication of which is looked forward to with interest by all those who know of Mr. Oberholser's painstaking methods of work. Dr. L. H. Miller, of Los Angeles, has in preparation an exhaustive report on the Avifauna of the Rancho La Brea, summarizing all that he has learned during his several years study of that wonderful fossil deposit. Mr. Donald R. Dickey, of Pasadena, is making a study of the California Jay with special respect to its feeding habits and its relation to other birds through the destruction of their eggs and young. This is to be illustrated by a number of remarkable pictures showing the jays in action. Mr. E. M. Anderson, of Victoria, B. C., is continuing his field work in British Columbia, with a view to ultimately compiling a fully annotated list of the birds of that province. Mr. J. E. Law is working up the systematic status of the Cliff Swallow in the West, and of the Palmer Thrasher in Arizona and Sonora. Mr. J. L. Sloanaker, of Kallispell, Montana, is assembling information concerning the birds of Flathead County, supplementary to that already published by other authors. Mr. H. S. Swarth, of the staff of the California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, is revising the systematic status of the brown towhees and of the jays of the genus *Aphelocoma*. Dr. H. C. Bryant, continues his work on food of various California birds; just now the ducks are claiming his attention. Mr. T. I. Storer is occupied with a study of the Natural History of the Yosemite region. Dr. J. Grinnell is collaborating with Mr. Storer in his work on the Yosemite natural history, and is also putting much time on a second installment of his bibliography of California ornithology.

We are indebted to Mr. J. Eugene Law for getting up the Cooper Club membership list appearing in this issue. There is a total of 601 names. In compiling this roster each name has been cited as its owner usually signs it (except that titles, "Prof.", "Dr.", etc., are inserted between surname and given names) rather than by any consistent scheme of using one or all given names in full, or only the initials. Members are requested to notify J. Eugene Law, Business Manager, Hollywood, California, of any errors or changes in name or address.